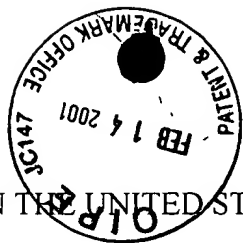


FEE ENCLOSED: \$ 695 -
Please charge any further
fee to our Deposit Account
No. 18-0002



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2767

Examiner: J. Darrow

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**PETITION FOR
FOUR-MONTH
EXTENSION OF TIME**
Technology Center 2100

In re NEW PATENT APPLICATION of:

Applicant : SCHEIDT et al.

Appln. No. : 09/023,672

Confirmation No.: 7278

Filed : February 13, 1998

For : CRYPTOGRAPHIC KEY SPLIT
COMBINER

Atty. Dkt. : STS 119

February 12, 2001

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the period for filing an Appeal Brief, in response to the Examiner's final Action dated July 27, 2000, be extended for four months under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a).

The applicable small entity extension fee of \$695.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(4) is submitted herewith.

If any additional fees are required, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 18-0002 and notify us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. Champagne
Registration No. 36,478
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